ELECTRIC METERING EXPLAINED

Single Phase, Three Phase, CT and MID Approved Meters

A practical guide for UK commercial sites and landlords

OWEN BROTHERS METERING UK | EST. 1953 | owen-brothers.com

What Is an Electric Sub Meter?

An electric sub meter sits downstream of the main supply meter and measures the consumption of a single tenant, unit, or piece of equipment.
It gives accurate, individual readings for billing, cost recovery, or energy monitoring, separate from the building's overall supply.

Since 1953, Owen Brothers has supplied this full range from its Oldham, Greater Manchester base.

PRODUCT RANGE

- Single phase meters
- Three phase meters
- CT operated meters
- Rogowski coil meters
- MID approved meters
- Metro prepayment meters (electric and gas)

Single Phase vs Three Phase Meters

SINGLE PHASE METER

- Measures supply on a single live conductor

Typically used for smaller loads

Common in homes, small commercial units, individual tenant supplies

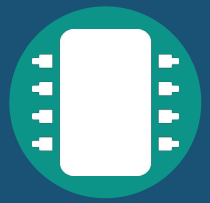
THREE PHASE METER

- Measures supply across three separate phases

Suited to heavier loads

Common in commercial and industrial buildings

The right choice usually comes down to the size and type of the load being measured.



CT Operated Meters

Current transformer metering for higher-current supplies

A CT operated meter uses current transformers to measure high currents indirectly, rather than passing the full load through the meter.

- Practical for commercial electricity meter installations where wiring the full load directly is impractical
- Often the preferred energy meter with CT for landlords and site managers wanting accurate consumption data
- Rogowski coil meters offer a flexible, clip-around alternative for retrofit installations

MID Approved Meters

Where a meter reading is used as the basis for a financial charge, such as recharging tenants or billing, MID approved metering is generally the appropriate choice.
MID approval relates to the accuracy and reliability of the measuring instrument itself.

A NOTE ON COMPLIANCE

Specific installation or certification requirements may vary depending on the site and application. Anyone unsure of what applies to their situation should check current guidance from the relevant regulatory body before proceeding.

Metro Prepayment Meters

For electric and gas

ELECTRIC

Metro prepayment electric meters let occupiers top up and manage consumption directly, paying for electricity in advance.

GAS

A matching gas prepayment option is available, giving sites with both fuel types a consistent way to manage gas and electric meter costs.

Remote Monitoring

4G modem + OBmeters.com portal

For sites that need visibility beyond a manual reading, Owen Brothers offers remote monitoring through a 4G industrial modem with a multi-network SIM.

- Meter data connects to the OBmeters.com portal
- Consumption can be checked without a site visit
- Suited to landlords, facilities managers, and multi-site operators tracking usage centrally

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a single phase or three phase meter?

It depends on the load. Smaller sites typically use single phase; heavier commercial or industrial loads typically use three phase.

What does a CT operated meter do?

It measures high currents indirectly using current transformers, avoiding the need to wire the full load through the meter.

Is MID approval required?

Where a reading is used for billing or recharging, MID approved metering is generally the appropriate choice. Requirements can vary by site, so check current guidance.

Can I monitor meters remotely?

Yes. Owen Brothers' 4G modem connects to the OBmeters.com portal for remote consumption monitoring.

Get the Right Meter for Your Site

- Single phase and three phase electric sub meters
- CT operated and Rogowski coil meters
- MID approved meters
- Metro prepayment meters, electric and gas
- Remote monitoring via 4G modem and OBmeters.com

VISIT

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